

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

JUSE-00 SEC-01 FTC-01 /064 W
----- 070122

O R 211211Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4688

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP, US

SUBJ: GOVT COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE RUMORED LOCKHEED PAY-OFFS

REF: MADRID 1249

1. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MEETING IN BARCELONA FEB 20, APPOINTED COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE FACTS BEHIND PRESS ALLEGATIONS OF IRREGULARITIES IN ACQUISITION OF LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT. NMES OF COMMISSION MEMBEES HAVE BEEN PURPOSELY WITHHELD TO AVOID PREJUDICING ORDERLY WORK OF INQUIRY.
2. DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN AND NORTH ASIAN AFFAIRS, DURAN-LORIGA, TOLD DCM FEB 21 THAT GOS WAS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY RUMORS ABOUT LOCKHEED PAY-OFFS ALTHOUGH IT HAD NO SUBSTANTIAL INFORMATION AT THIS TIME. GOS, HE SAID, COULD NOT INDEFINITELY WITHHOLD COMMENT INASMUCH AS ITS SILENCE MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLICIT ADMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE OF AND DESIRE TO COVER UP PAY-OFFS. THIS IS REASON FOR MFA INSTRUCTION TO ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON LOCKHEED REVELATIONS. DURAN-LORIGA ASKED THAT WE DO OUR

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BEST TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION WE COULD.

3. COMMENT: THE NEW SPANISH GOVT, LIKE ITS PREDECESSORS,
HAS BEEN THE OBJECT OF SHARP ATTACKS FROM THE EXTRAMURAL
OPPOSITION FOR ALLEGEDLY DOING NOTHING ABOUT CORRUPTION.
IT HAS PROMISED, IN ITS PROGRAM OF REFORMS, TO INVESTIGATE
AND ERADICATE CORRUPTION, THE LOCKHEED REPORTS HAVE ALREADY
BECOME A HIGH VISIBILITY ITEM IN SPANISH
MEDIA. GOS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM US AND APPOINTMENT OF
INQUIRY COMMISSION ARE APPARENTLY DESIGNED TO GIVE THE GOVT A
POSSIBILITY OF BEING THE FIRST TO REVEAL ANY IRREGULARITIES
AND DEMONSTRATE THEREBY ITS DETERMINATION TO REPRESS
CORRUPTION.
STABLER

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Message Attributes

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